

1. An airbag assembly, comprising:  
an inflatable curtain having a gas inlet for receiving a gas guide and at least one mounting location for mounting the inflatable curtain to a vehicle; and  
a stiffening member having a stiffness greater than the inflatable curtain,  
5 the stiffening member extending adjacent the at least one mounting location and along a length of the inflatable curtain such that the stiffening member is connectable to the gas guide.
2. The airbag assembly of claim 1, further comprising a channel in the  
10 inflatable curtain disposed adjacent the inlet and the at least one mounting location, the stiffening member being located within the channel.
3. The airbag assembly of claim 2, wherein the channel is formed integral with a material of the inflatable curtain.  
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4. The airbag assembly of claim 2, wherein the channel is attached to the inflatable curtain.
5. The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein the stiffening member is an  
20 elongated plastic component.
6. The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein the stiffening member is an elongated metal component.

7. The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein the stiffening member is a bar-shaped elongated planar member.

5 8. The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein the at least one mounting location is at least one attachment tab located on an upper edge of the inflatable curtain.

9. The airbag assembly of claim 8, further comprising at least one mounting clip that receives the at least one attachment tab and the stiffening member adjacent the at  
10 least one attachment tab.

10. The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein the stiffening member has an attaching portion that can connect to a defined location on the gas guide.

15 11. The airbag assembly of claim 10, further comprising an inflator having a gas guide that extends from the inflator to the inlet of the inflatable curtain.

12. The airbag assembly of claim 11, wherein the defined location on the gas guide is a protrusion.

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13. The airbag assembly of claim 12, wherein the attaching portion on the stiffening member is an orifice that engages the protrusion on the gas guide.

14. The airbag assembly of claim 11, wherein the stiffening member is rigidly connected to the gas guide to prevent twisting of the inflatable curtain between the gas guide and the at least one mounting location.

5 15. The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein the stiffening member extends proximate the gas inlet.

16. An airbag assembly, comprising:  
an inflatable curtain having an inlet for receiving a gas guide and at least one mounting locations for mounting the inflatable curtain proximate a roof rail of a vehicle, the inflatable curtain further comprising a channel disposed adjacent the inlet and  
5 the at least one mounting location; and  
a stiffening member having a stiffness greater than the inflatable curtain, the stiffening member disposed within the channel and extending adjacent the at least one mounting location and along a length of the inflatable curtain to proximate the inlet, the stiffening member having an attaching portion connectable to a defined location on the  
10 gas guide.

17. The airbag assembly of claim 16, wherein the channel is formed integral with a material of the inflatable curtain.

15 18. The airbag assembly of claim 16, wherein the channel is attached to the inflatable curtain.

19. The airbag assembly of claim 17, wherein the stiffening member is a bar-shaped elongated planar member.

20 20. The airbag assembly of claim 19, wherein the at least one mounting locations are at least one attachment tabs located on an upper edge of the inflatable curtain.

21. The airbag assembly of claim 20, further comprising at least one mounting clips that receive the at least one attachment tabs and the stiffening member adjacent the at least one attachment tab.

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22. The airbag assembly of claim 21, wherein the bar-shaped elongated planar member is plastic.

23. The airbag assembly of claim 21, wherein the bar-shaped elongated planar member is metal.

24. The airbag assembly of claim 21, further comprising an inflator having a gas guide that extends from the inflator to the inlet of the inflatable curtain.

25. The airbag assembly of claim 24, wherein the defined location on the gas guide is a protrusion.

26. The airbag assembly of claim 25, wherein the attaching portion on the stiffening member is an orifice that engages the protrusion on the gas guide.

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27. The airbag assembly of claim 26, wherein the stiffening member is rigidly connected to the gas guide to prevent twisting of the inflatable curtain between the gas guide and the at least one mounting location.

28. An airbag assembly, comprising:  
an inflator having a gas guide that extends from the inflator;  
an inflatable curtain having an inlet receiving the gas guide and at least  
one mounting location for mounting the inflatable curtain proximate a roof rail of a  
5 vehicle; and

a stiffening member having a stiffness greater than the inflatable curtain,  
the stiffening member attached to the gas guide and extending along a length of the  
inflatable curtain adjacent the at least one mounting location.

10 29. The airbag assembly of claim 28, further comprising a channel in the  
inflatable curtain disposed adjacent the inlet and the at least one mounting location, the  
stiffening member being located within the channel.

30. The airbag assembly of claim 29, wherein the channel is formed integral  
15 with a material of the inflatable curtain.

31. The airbag assembly of claim 29, wherein the channel is attached to the  
inflatable curtain.

20 32. The airbag assembly of claim 28, wherein the stiffening member is a bar-  
shaped elongated planar member.

33. The airbag assembly of claim 28, wherein the stiffening member is an elongated plastic component.

34. The airbag assembly of claim 28, wherein the stiffening member is an  
5 elongated metal component.

35. The airbag assembly of claim 28, wherein the at least one mounting location is at least one attachment tab located on an upper edge of the inflatable curtain.

10 36. The airbag assembly of claim 35, further comprising at least one mounting clip that receive the at least one attachment tab and the stiffening member adjacent the at least one attachment tab.

37. The airbag assembly of claim 28, wherein the stiffening member has an  
15 attaching portion that is connected to a defined location on the gas guide.

38. The airbag assembly of claim 37, wherein the defined location on the gas guide is a protrusion.

20 39. The airbag assembly of claim 38, wherein the attaching portion on the stiffening member is an orifice that engages the protrusion on the gas guide.

40. The airbag assembly of claim 28, wherein the stiffening member is rigidly connected to the gas guide to prevent twisting of the inflatable curtain between the gas guide and the at least one mounting location.



41. A method for resisting twisting of an inflatable curtain, comprising:
- obtaining an inflatable curtain having an inlet for receiving a gas guide and at least one mounting location for mounting the inflatable curtain proximate a roof rail of a vehicle;
- 5 positioning a stiffening member along a length of the inflatable curtain adjacent the at least one mounting location;
- connecting the gas guide to the inlet of the inflatable curtain; and
- attaching the stiffening member to the gas guide.
- 10 42. The method of claim 41, wherein the stiffening member is disposed within a channel in the inflatable curtain that extends from adjacent the inlet to the at least one mounting location.
43. The method of claim 41, wherein the stiffening member is constructed to
- 15 resist twisting of the inflatable curtain between the inlet and the at least one mounting location.
44. The method of claim 41, further comprising attaching at least one mounting clip to the at least one mounting location and the stiffening member adjacent
- 20 the at least one mounting location.

45. The method of claim 41, wherein the stiffening member is rigidly connected to the gas guide to prevent twisting of the inflatable curtain between the gas guide and the at least one mounting location.